Decline in gold reserves

@2931. DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY:

SHRI BEKAL UTSAHI:

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that gold reserves are fast depleting while no newgold-mines have been discovered in the country with substantial quantities of gold; if so, what are the details thereof;

(b) whether production of gold at all mines has declined;

(c) whether Government have formulated any plan to ensure increased gold production; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI MAKHAN LAL FOTEDAR): (a) to (d) Bharat Gold Mines Limited, a Central Government Undertaking under this Ministry, and Hutti Gold Mines Company Ltd., a Karnataka State Government Undertaking, are the two primary gold producing units in the country. While production at Kolar Gold Field Mines under BGML has been declining over the years due to depletion of reserves through exploitation over 107 years, total gold production durnig last three years by these units does not show continuous decline. The production of gold in the mines of BGML and HGML during the last three years is given below:—

(Unit : Kgs)

	1985-86	1986-87	1987-88
BGML	915.81	792.49	834.72
HGML	837.00	916.00	881.00
	1752.81	1708.49	1715.72

In view of the depletion of reserves end progressively uneconomic mining operations, it has been decided by the Govt. to phase out KGF mines over a period of 7 years as a part of a package programme to make the Company viable. In order to make up the loss of production at KGF, BGML has already taken up exploitation and exploration of new gold-bearing areas. Outside Kolar Gold Field, BGML has commenced production of gold at Yappamana Mine and is also developing Chigargudd gold deposit (with plans to produce initially 250 tonnes gold ore per day, gradually increasing it to 500 tonnes per day gold ore) in Andhra Pra-

@Previously unstarred Question 1633, transferred from the 9th August, 1988.

desh. The production of gold achieved from these mines during 1986-87 and 1987-88 is given below:—

Production (in Kgs)

Year	Yappamana	Chigargunta
1986-87 . .	92.28	45.3
1987-88 . .	77.20	65.2
(Provisional)		

Besides BGML, Geological Survey of India (GSI), and Mineral Exploration Corporation Limited (MECL), are also continuing with efforts for survey and exploration of new gold deposits. The MECL is continuing detailed exploration over the following blocks:

Karnataka State:

1. Gadag Gold Field-Hosur Champion East & West blocks and Mysore Mine Option block.

2. Hutti Gold Field-Buddini and Wandal blocks.

3. Nuggihalli schist beltkempinkote.

Andhra Pradesh

1. Kolar schist belt-Old Bisanatham mine and Chigargunta

Bihar State:

Porojarna Mine block, Kunderkocha gold deposit, Singhbhum District.

Maharashtra:

Kolari Gold prospect, Bhandara District.

THE GSI is carrying out regional exploration for gold in the Gadag and Hutti gold fields (Karnataka) and Kolar schist belt (in Karnataka and its extensions in Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu) as well as in the States of Kerala, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh and Orissa.

Multi-storeyed buildings along Bara Khamba Road

@2932. SHRI BHAGAT RAM MANHAR:

SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH:

SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that quite a few multi-storeyed buildings have been allowed to come up along Barakhamba Road and if so what are the details of civic measures adopted for the safety ad convenience of people working in these buildings as well as pedestrians and motorists frequenting Barakhamba Road;

(b) whether it is also a fact that some builders have been allowed by the New Delhi Municipal Committee (NDMC) to put up slightly-raised concrete platforms along a side-lane of Barakhamba Road and the same are being used as private parking lots by the builders in violation of the civic rules; and

@Previously unstarred Question 2513, transferred from the 16th August, 1988.